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upon the extension of a closing time for said second lot, means for determining whether a closing time for a third lot is within said predefined time interval from the extended closing time of said second lot; and

if the closing time for said third lot is within a predefined time interval from the extended closing time of said second lot, means for extending said closing time of said third lot such that the time between the extended closing time of said third lot and the extended closing time of said second lot is at least said predefined time interval.--

REMARKS

This paper is filed as a supplement to the Amendment filed on June 20, 2000. Applicants have added new claims 129-152. Accordingly, claims 105-152 are presently under consideration in this Application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections made in the Office Action in view of the above new claims and the remarks made herein.

Claims 1-8 and 89-104 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claims 1-8 and 89-104 were canceled without prejudice to the subject matter contained therein in the Amendment filed on June 20, 2000. New claims 129-152 are reproductions of cancelled claims 1-8 and 89-104, except for modifications to the title of the independent claims to conform with the remarks made in the Office Action. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 129-152 are in conformance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that claims 105-152 are in allowable form.

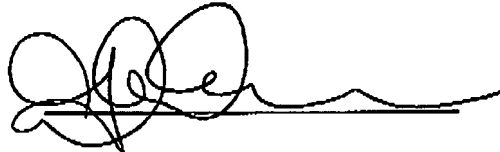
Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 412-560-3374 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this Supplemental Amendment, such as an extension of time, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John F. Kacvinsky', written over a horizontal line.

John F. Kacvinsky
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Dated: June 29, 2000

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